**PROPOSED Transition to PA’s New Assessment System**

**April 20, 2012**

This transition is occurring because of Pennsylvania’s adoption of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) which required the alignment of Pennsylvania’s assessments to the CCSS. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS PROPOSED AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE** based upon the United States Department of Education’s (USDoE) approval and/or alteration of Pennsylvania’s proposal.

Subject to legislative approval, funding for three Keystone Exams, Algebra I, Literature, and Biology, will be restored to Pennsylvania’s 2012-13 budget; therefore, the three aforementioned Keystone Exams are proposed to be administered in 2012-13. **More information concerning the Keystone Exams will be shared following the May 9-10 State Board of Education meeting.**

**2012-13 school-year:**

• **Grades 3-8 Reading and Mathematics PSSA** based on the current assessment anchor content standards (not the Common Core State Standards). Embedded field test items for the revised PSSA aligned to CCSS.

o These assessments will be offered both on-line and paper/pencil.

• **Grades 5 and 8 Writing PSSA** based on the current assessment anchor content standards.

o Offered both on-line and paper/pencil.

**• Grades 3-5 Stand-Alone Writing Field Test.**

o Offered paper/pencil only.

• **Grades 4 and 8 Science PSSA** based on the current assessment anchor content standards.

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil.

**• No PSSA-M will be offered/available.**

• Alternate assessment will be administered in math and reading in grades 3-8 and 11.

• Alternate assessment will be administered in science in grades 4, 8, and 11.

**• No 11th grade PSSA will be offered/available. Keystones administered for**

**Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.**

**2013-14 school-year:**

• **Grades 3-5 English Language Arts PSSA based on assessment anchor content standards aligned to Common Core State Standards**

o Note that this assessment includes a writing component, an area not previously assessed at grades 3 and 4; thus the reason for last year’s 3-5 writing field test.

o PDE also intends to apply for new Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) at the 3-5 grade span level, as this is a provision allowed by USDoE if a state adopts a new assessment

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil.

• **Grades 3-5 Mathematics PSSA based on assessment anchor content standards aligned to Common Core State Standards**

o PDE intends to apply for new Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) at the 3-5 grade span level, as this is a provision allowed by USDoE if a state adopts a new assessment

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil

• **Grades 6-8 Reading and Mathematics PSSA** based on the current assessment anchor content standards (not the Common Core State Standards). Embedded field test items for the revised PSSA aligned to CCSS.

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil.

• **Grade 8 Writing PSSA** based on the current assessment anchor content standards.

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil.

**• Grades 6-8 Stand-Alone Writing Field Test**

o Offered paper/pencil only.

• **Grades 4 and 8 Science PSSA** based on the current assessment anchor content standards.

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil.

**• No PSSA-M.**

• Alternate assessment will be administered in math and reading in grades 3-8 and 11.

• Alternate assessment will be administered in science in grades 4, 8, and 11.

**• No 11th grade PSSA; Keystones administered for Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.**

**2014-15 school-year:**

**• Grades 3-8 English Language Arts PSSA based on assessment anchor content standards aligned to Common Core State Standards**

o Note that this assessment includes a writing component, an area not previously assessed at grades 6 and 7; thus the reason for last year’s 6-8 writing field test.

o PDE also intends to apply for new Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) at the 6-8 grade span level, as this is a provision allowed by USDoE if a state adopts a new assessment.

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil.

**• Grades 3-8 Mathematics PSSA based on assessment anchor content standards aligned to Common Core Standards.**

o PDE intends to apply for new Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) at the 6-8 grade span level, as this is a provision allowed by USDoE if a state adopts a new assessment

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil

• **Grades 4 and 8 Science PSSA** based on the current assessment anchor content standards.

o Offered on-line and paper/pencil

• Alternate assessment will be administered in math and reading in grades 3-8 and 11.

• Alternate assessment will be administered in science in grades 4, 8, and 11.

**• No 11th grade PSSA; Keystones administered for Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.**